-- While the security situation in the refugee camps in Zaire

has not worsened appreciably -- despite a weekend of

looting and shooting by the Zairois troops Nov. 25-27 --

and while UNHCR may actually be able to register individual

refugees to improve integrity of the relief effort, we

continue to believe that security is one of the most .

critical issues for the international community to address.

-- We are distressed that the UNHCR/DPKO assessment to design

a useful intervention was authorized only this week

(12/11). We also note that the U.N. has just issued a

request for civilian police officers to train and monitor

Zairian/refugee security units. We assume these are

coordinated initiatives.

-- We continue to believe that despite U.N. distaste for

contract security arrangements which could be seen as

reflecting a failure of collective security commitments,

this is the only viable short-term response to the

problem. We intend to actively lobby the U.N. on this.

-- Although the USG is not prepared to provide troops for a

security operation and we are prohibited by law from aiding

Zairian police, we are prepared to provide reimbursable

airlift for those countries than can respond.

-- The Friends should agree on what components of security we
   all can/cannot support: training local security forces,
   basic security for relief activities, general policing in
   the camps, security bubble to facilitate repatriation,
   and/or separating the FAR and militias from the refugees.

-- On balance, we believe that the related UNAMIR action of
   12/14 to disarm those in the internally displaced person
   camps in Rwanda was salutary. We are concerned, however,
   that such actions be fully coordinated within the U.N.
   family of affected agencies.

NYC Friends of Rwanda -- Security in Camps

SERWBY 267

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